



CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for monitoring distributor activity in a supply chain management
2 framework, comprising:
 - 3 a) receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain utilizing a network, the
4 data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;
 - 5 b) generating electronic order forms based on the data for ordering goods from a
6 plurality of distributors of the supply chain;
 - 7 c) sending the electronic order forms to the distributors so that the goods are
8 delivered to the stores; and
 - 9 d) comparing the electronic order forms for each of the distributors for monitoring
10 the reliance of the at least one store on each distributor.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic order forms are generated by the at
2 least one store.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the comparison is accessible utilizing a network-
2 based interface.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic order forms indicate a type of the
2 goods, an amount of goods, and a target delivery date of the goods.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the comparison is used to gauge a performance of
2 the distributors.



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- 1 7. A system for monitoring distributor activity in a supply chain management
2 framework, comprising:
 - 3 a) logic for receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain utilizing a
4 network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;
 - 5 b) logic for generating electronic order forms based on the data for ordering goods
6 from a plurality of distributors of the supply chain;
 - 7 c) logic for sending the electronic order forms to the distributors so that the goods
8 are delivered to the stores; and
 - 9 d) logic for comparing the electronic order forms for each of the distributors for
10 monitoring the reliance of the at least one store on each distributor.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 9. The system of claim 7, wherein the electronic order forms are generated by the at
2 least one store.
- 1 10. The system of claim 7, wherein the comparison is accessible utilizing a network-
2 based interface.
- 1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the electronic order forms indicate a type of the
2 goods, an amount of goods, and a target delivery date of the goods.
- 1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the comparison is used to gauge a performance of
2 the distributors.
- 1 13. A computer program product for monitoring distributor activity in a supply chain
2 management framework, comprising:
 - 3 a) computer code for receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain
4 utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;
 - 5 b) computer code for generating electronic order forms based on the data for
6 ordering goods from a plurality of distributors of the supply chain;



- 7 c) computer code for sending the electronic order forms to the distributors so that the
8 goods are delivered to the stores; and
9 d) computer code for comparing the electronic order forms for each of the
10 distributors for monitoring the reliance of the at least one store on each
11 distributor.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the
2 Internet.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the electronic order forms
2 are generated by the at least one store.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the comparison is accessible
2 utilizing a network-based interface.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the electronic order forms
2 indicate a type of the goods, an amount of goods, and a target delivery date of the
3 goods.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the comparison is used to
2 gauge a performance of the distributors.